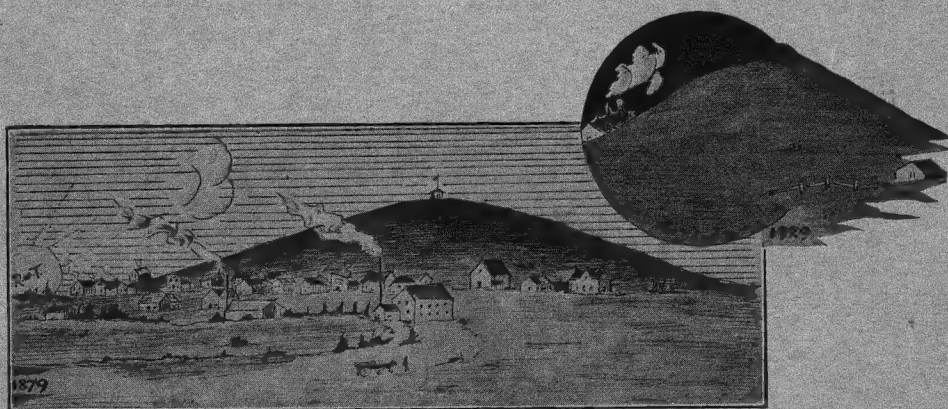
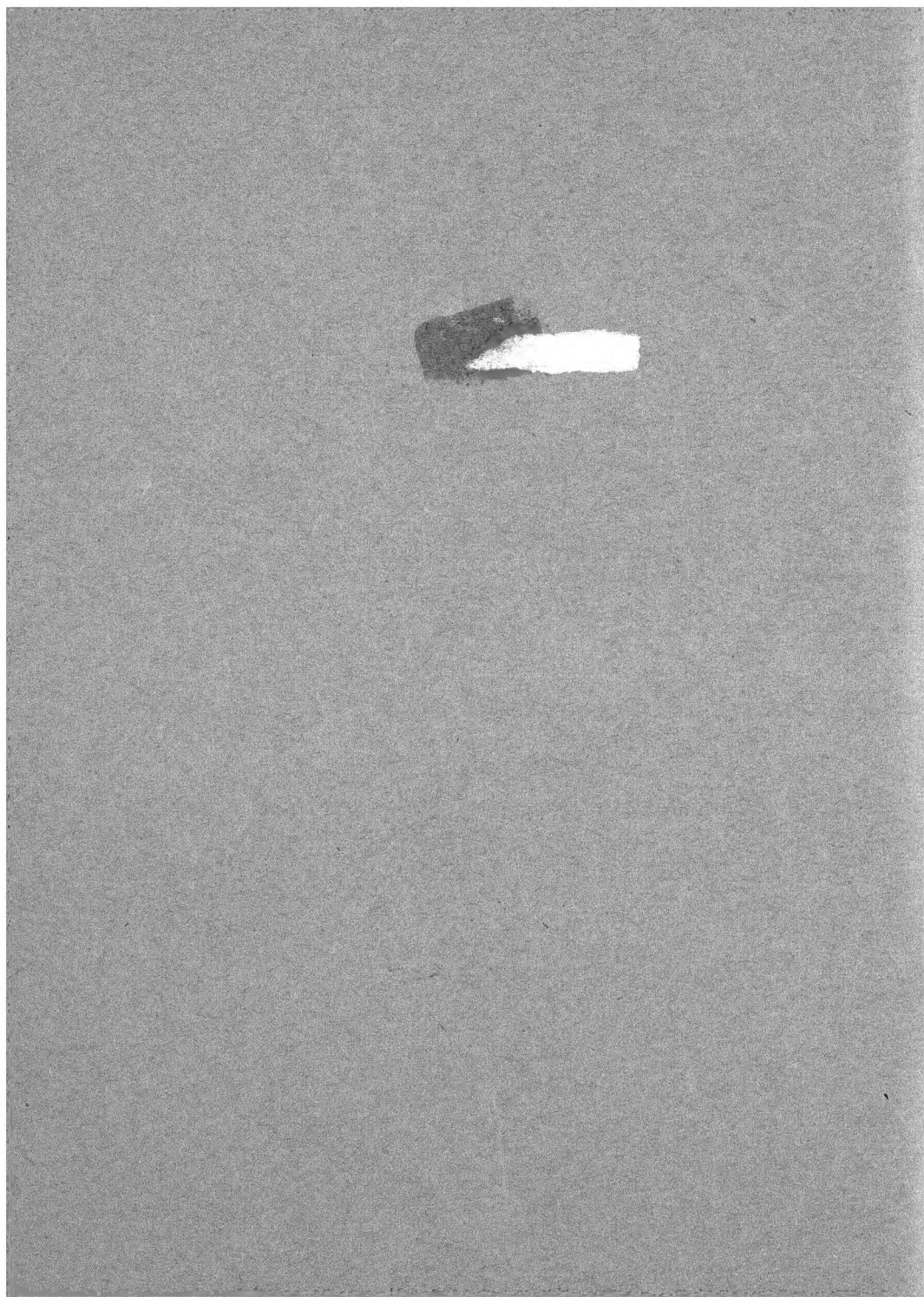


Memories of Pioneer Days
at
Pilot Mound



Pilot Mound Sentinel Print



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To

The memory of the Pioneers who are with us no more
and

To the honour of those who are with us still,
this book is dedicated.

—W. R.

300913

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THE OLD HOME TOWN.

There's a whispering stream where willows grew,
And summer shadows dappled the shore;
There was pleasant scent of the sweet wild rose
Where the dewy flower bloomed long ago.
Now myriad lights in the village gleam,
And talk with the twinkling stars above,
And stories are told of the days that were
On the sunny banks by the "old home town."

—Walpole Murdoch

AUTHOR'S FOREWORD.



Last year, acting on a suggestion made by Rev. John L. Brown, M. P., the Boys' and Girls' Club of Pilot Mound and district, sponsored an essay writing competition on the subject of "The Pioneers." A plan was arranged whereby the Trustees of each School District concerned, would give prizes to the amount of five dollars for competition within its own boundaries. The best essays from all the districts were then to be chosen to compete for special prizes amounting to twenty-five dollars, given by Mr. Brown. Eight splendid papers were sent in, and Mr. Brown's prize was awarded as follows:—1st, Roy Stuart; 2nd, Margaret Mayne; 3rd, Doris Fraser; 4th, Adaline Armstrong. Others who wrote papers were: Albert

Stuart, Genevieve McGowan, Helen Monkman and Mary Perfect.

It was my privilege to be appointed to supervise this project and as a result I undertook to compile from the essays, a more complete record than was contained in any one of the papers. From many sources I sought information, with the result that the present volume is being sent out to the public as "Memories of Pioneer Days at Pilot Mound."

I am indebted to many good and patient friends for information they have so gladly given me. I am especially grateful to John L. Brown, M. P.; Peter T. Butchard, Edmonton; James M. Fraser, Victoria; James Morrow, Winnipeg; Walpole Murdoch, Santa Monica; William Ritchie, Summerland; and D. A. Stewart, for corrections and suggestions made after they had read the final copy of my manuscript. Then to Miss L. Johannessen, I am indebted for her work in typing the Ms.

I am conscious of the fact that some may find mistakes and notice omissions. Still I can say that an honest attempt has been made to produce a record, impartial and fair. No name has been omitted intentionally. No information received has been ignored. I have, therefore, pleasure in sending out this volume to the people whose friendship I have appreciated, believing that it contains a fairly accurate record and authentic "Memories of Pioneer Days at Pilot Mound."

—WILLIAM REID.

"The Manse" Pilot Mound
April 1st, 1930.

INTRODUCTORY BY J. L. BROWN, M. P.

It must always be an occasion for regret when the facts with reference to the early life of any community are allowed to be forgotten. The work of the pioneer settler may not be as spectacular as the building of great manufacturing plants or trans-continental railways, but it must always be remembered that the foundations of all that is great in Canadian national life were laid by the men and women, who, whether in the forests of eastern Canada and British Columbia or on the prairies that lie between the great lakes and the Rocky Mountains established homes and made the wilderness to blossom as the rose.

More than fifty years have elapsed since the first settlers came to Pilot Mound district. The great majority of these have passed away, but a few, whose chief delight is to talk of the old days, still remain.

The present sketch is the result of an attempt to gather from the best available sources, the facts with reference to the pioneer days. Every effort has been made to secure accuracy of statement and there is general agreement on the part of those competent to express an opinion.

Pioneer days in this district may be said to extend from the late seventies to the early eighties, or until the railroad came in 1885. There are many who have come to the district since then, men and women who have played a large part in the life of the community, but who can scarcely be considered as pioneers.

Great credit is due Rev. W. Reid for his pains-taking effort in connection with this volume and we feel sure that it will be well received both by the present residents of the Mound district and by the "Tribes scattered abroad."

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind,
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
For the days of auld lang syne."

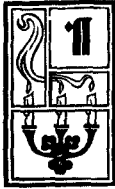
JOHN L. BROWN.

Memories of Pioneer Days

— AT —

Pilot Mound

INTRODUCTION.



IN the second decade of the eighteenth century, the Selkirk Settlers came, via the Hudson Bay to the banks of the Red River and established at a place now called "Kildonan," the first colony of white people in the territory now known as Manitoba. Prior to the coming of these Settlers, the land had been the happy hunting ground of the Indians and nominally belonged to the Hudson's Bay Co. Two years after Confederation, in 1869, the Government of Canada extinguished the claims of the Trading Co., and constituted in 1870 "The Province of Manitoba." The arrival of white English-speaking settlers, in large numbers, was resented by the French half-breeds and the Riel Rebellion followed. This was an unfortunate affair, still, it gave publicity to the fact that the vast lands of the North West were open for settlement. The railway was about to be built—a tie of steel to unite the Atlantic with the Pacific and to open to the world the plains of the last great West. Settlers began to arrive in the new Province and growth and development were normal and healthy until the boom reached a climax in 1882-83, when the bubble of inflated land values burst and many who were land rich became money poor.

CHAPTER I.

THE SOUTHWEST.



BEFORE the great crash came, many eyes were turned toward the southwestern corner of the Province, which then extended to Range twelve, just west of Clearwater. Beyond that point, in 1878, lay the North West Territories. Four men were destined to play a big part in the settlement of this locality. They were "The springs from which the streams of immigration flowed." These four men, Thomas Greenway, afterwards The Honorable Thomas Greenway, Premier of Manitoba, James Murdoch and the Revs. Robert and John Brown were in Manitoba during or before 1877, and on their return to the East they influenced men to come to this locality. Through Mr. Greenway, the Londesboro settlers and others came. Through Mr. Murdoch, the Paisley Colony was organized and through the Brown Brothers, many settlers came from Lanark Co.

Mr. Greenway located at what is now Crystal City and in the early days he organized colonies and arranged for special trains to bring in settlers and their effects. James Murdoch, in 1878, located on Sec. 7, 3-11. In 1880, Rev. John Brown located on part of Sec. 12, 3-11 and in 1882, Rev. Robert Brown arrived and later located on Sec. 10, 4-11.

Early Settlers.

Four townships, two and three in ranges eleven and twelve, were open and reserved for homesteads and pre-emptions. No land could be taken up with script or for speculation and with the exception of the Hudson Bay and the school sections all the land was available for the settlers. It was to those townships that the pioneers were directed. These early settlers came from many parts of the country and consequently it is impossible to classify them all and say that each one belonged to a special class or colony. Still, it is not difficult to see that six distinct groups arrived during the first two years of the settlement. These groups may be called: The Paisley Colony, The Lanark Colony, The Londesboro Settlers, The American Group, The Half-breed Colony, and The Fraser group. The forerunners of four of these groups arrived in 1878, and in 1879 there was a great influx of settlers.

The Forerunners.

The first settlers to come to the territory covered by this record were the Adams' family. James Adams with his wife and three girls arrived in the month of June, on their homestead on Sec. 9, 3-12. Mr. and Mrs. Adams were originally from Devonshire, Eng., and had lived for five years near Hamilton, Ont. before coming west. Mr. Adams was a blacksmith and for some time, during his first year here, he worked at Nelsonville, six miles northeast of Morden. On Christmas eve when Mr. and Mrs. Adams were preparing to celebrate their first Christmas in Manitoba, their house and contents were completely destroyed by fire. In order to get some shelter for his family, Mr. Adams turned out his yoke of oxen from their stable. The cold was so severe that one of them died from exposure. The Indians were good to these homeless settlers, bringing them fish and meat and providing them with moccasins. Mrs. Hay, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adams, is still on the old homestead.

The Paisley Colony.

James Murdoch, who had visited Manitoba in 1874, and who had published in "The Paisley Advocate" several descriptive articles on the West, may be called the "Father" of the Paisley Colony. Through his influence a number of Paisley people decided to emigrate, as a Colony, to Manitoba, and Mr. Murdoch, with James Steele, was sent out, in 1878, to select a desirable location. These two men explored the land and on their return reported favorably of the district surrounding the old mound. They told of the land reserved for homesteading and reported that the Government would not hold it exclusively for the Paisley people. The result was that in the fall of 1878, James Barbour, John Moffatt, Robert Blackburn Jr., and James Beveridge with his wife and her mother left Paisley and arrived here in September of that year. James Kemp, from Lanark, joined the group and stayed with them during part of that winter. Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge and the latter's mother, Mrs. Wilson, travelled, as most settlers did, via Emerson. There they bought a yoke of oxen and started overland for their homestead. Near the present location of Darlingford, they stayed at the home of Mrs. Gray. This genial woman, knowing something of the privations of pioneer life, persuaded Mrs. Wilson to remain with her until Mr. Beveridge had built his shack. Consequently, Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge started out alone and, arriving near the old mound, they pitched their tent in the ravine on the homestead of Peter Butchard, who had arrived before them, near the spot where the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. White now stands. James Barbour located on Sec. 34, 3-11, and when he and the other men, already mentioned arrived, they decided to co-operate in building a house

on Mr. Barbour's land, owing to the fact that it was in the bush. Here, then, was built, a short distance from the shore of what became known as Barbour's lake, the house or shanty in which Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge, Mrs. Wilson, Robert Blackburn and John Moffatt spent the winter of 1878-79. Soon after the shanty was built, Mr. Barbour went east and in the spring of 1879, he returned with Mrs. Barbour and five members of his family, William, James, Robert, Kate and Jenny. During the winter, Mr. Kemp went to Nelsonville, where he worked on the farm of a Mr. Bradshaw. These men spent most of their time during that winter taking out logs to build their homes. After spending the winter in Mr. Barbour's house, Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge moved to their own homestead on Sec. 16, 3-11. Mrs. Wilson filed on the north half and Mr. Beveridge homesteaded the south half of that section. A comfortable log house had been built which became the social centre for the district. During the year 1879, many others arrived and joined the colony. In May of that year Murdoch McQuarrie, James Murdoch with his wife and family, Alice Moffatt, who later became Mrs. Reesor, Fred McDougall, Matthew Blackburn and his father Robert Sr. and his sister Annie, who later married James Stuart, and Alexander and Walpole Murdoch arrived. Later in the year John A. Murdoch, father of Walpole and Alex., with his son Frank and his daughters Rose and Bella, Mrs. Alex. Murdoch and her two girls and her mother Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Matthew Blackburn and William Elliot arrived. John Moffatt located on part of Sec. 9, 3-11, where his son Roy operates a modern dairy farm and Robert Blackburn chose Sec. 29, 3-11.

James Murdoch died on Nov. 3, 1889, and John A. Murdoch died at Cypress River in 1899. The latter was the editor of "The Paisley Advocate" and later of "The Pilot Mound Sentinel." His writings were published in many papers and to his memory, a memorial tablet has been placed in the hospital at Birtle.

Of these original settlers, Mrs. Matthew Blackburn, Mrs. James Stuart, Mrs. Alex. Murdoch, Walpole Murdoch and his two sisters are still living.

The Lanark Colony.

It is difficult to draw a line between the people of the Paisley Colony and those who hailed from Lanark as many of the Paisley people were originally from Lanark and therefore some of them were inter-related. Still it may be said that James Kemp, who arrived in 1878 was the forerunner of the Lanark settlers. Although to be accurate we should point out that there were two distinct groups from Lanark Co. One group, as already mentioned, comprised those who were associated with the Browns, the other com-

prised R. J. Duncan, Peter Cram, Hugh Lockhart and others. It happened that when James Murdoch and James Steele were returning East after looking over the land in 1878 that they met, in Winnipeg, R. J. Duncan, Peter Cram and Hugh Lockhart. These men were looking for land and acting on the advice of Mr. Murdoch they filed on their homesteads in the fall of 1878. After working in the vicinity of Winnipeg for the winter they arrived here early in the spring of 1879. Mr. Duncan and Mr. Lockhart chose Section 12, 3-12. Mr. Cram took the East half of the Section 7, 3-11 on which Mr. Murdoch had located.

What is usually spoken of as the Lanark Colony comprises many who came from Lanark Co. and their friends who came from other parts of Eastern Ontario. At least two special trains were "made up" at Brockville by a Mr. Taylor, of Ottawa. The first of these left in April, 1879, the second in May. It is almost impossible at this late date to name all the immigrants who came on these special trains. We understand, however, that on the first there were the following: James Corbett, father of Dr. Corbett, James and John Stewart, who located southwest of Crystal City, Jonathan Mussell, who located later in Pembina, William Robertson and his family, including R. T., Norman Whitten and his family, and Findlay McEwen, who homesteaded near Clearwater.

On the second of the two, there were John Affleck and Archie Taylor, who located near Clearwater, James Rankin, who settled in Wood Bay, Adam Maxwell and J. D. Robertson, who went south to Star Mound, D. A. Stewart and some others. To these may be added the names of others, who came in during the early days from Lanark Co. and other parts of eastern Canada. R. P. Affleck, James Mitchell, James Arnott, James B. Baird, James Campbell, James Masson, William Munroe, Archie McGregor, Archie McLaren, W. C. McLean, Frank and John Publow, William Ritchie and John D. Stewart. Then from Watford came Joseph Haire, David Watson and William Robinson. Mrs. R. P. Affleck is still in Pilot Mound. Joseph Haire, who is well over ninety years of age, is living in Edmonton.

The Londesboro Settlers.

The Londesboro settlers came from Londesboro, Ontario. The forefathers of some of them were originally from Londesboro, Yorkshire, England. Sixteen men old enough to homestead came to Emerson in a train arranged for by Mr. Greenway. Two passenger coaches and three car loads of stock and effects made up the train. Besides the sixteen men there were several women and children. The following are the names of the Londesboro people who arrived in March 1879: Anthony and Mrs. Cockerline and

their son William, Thomas and Mrs. Ady with their sons George and Harry and other smaller children, Thomas and Mrs. Hagyard with their family James, Ann Elizabeth (now Mrs. John Phair), William, Fred, Thos., Foster and Ethel, Sam and William Longman, William Manning, James McCool, Sam McLean, Tom Sandercock, R. C. Riddell, W. Southcombe, Joseph and Mrs. Wallace and James Whenham. Mrs. Wallace stayed about two months near Nelsonville and then joined her husband. She was, we understand, the first white woman in the Londesboro settlement. The other women with their smaller children remained at Nelsonville, until the fall, when they came to their sod shanties on the prairie. None of the original homesteaders are resident in the district now, but their descendants, the Cockerlines, the Hagyards, the Mannings, the McLeans and the Wallaces are still honoured citizens in the locality, where their fathers and mothers endured the hardships of pioneer life in 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are residents of Winnipeg and are spending the winter of 1929-30 on their old homestead, now the home of their son.

The American Colony.

In July, 1878, William Butchard, from North Carolina, Richard Preston and his son Leonard, from Bruce Co., Ont., arrived a few miles southwest of the old mound. William Butchard located on the north half of Sec. 1, 3-12, Richard Preston chose the south half of Section 13, 3-12 and Leonard filed on the west half of Sec. 18, 3-11. Early in September of the same year, Robert S. Preston and Peter T. Butchard arrived and located on 17, 3-11, Mr. Preston taking the west half and Mr. Butchard taking the east half. A little later, T. C. Preston arrived and took up the north half of 13, 3-12. About the same time as the Butchards and the Prestons arrived, Donald Shaw, a Highland Scotchman, with his mother and his wife and children and John McGinnis came from Iowa, where they had lived for some years. They drove all the way in a covered wagon. Mr. Shaw and his mother homesteaded Sec. 2, 3-12, and John McGinnis located on 3, 3-12. Mrs. Shaw Sr., died about two years after her arrival, and her body was buried on the homestead. Later it was moved to the cemetery at Clearwater.

These pioneers were very busy. William Butchard turned the first sod in the district and in 1879 harvested seven acres of wheat. This crop was cut with a cradle, threshed with a flail and cleaned with the wind. Besides breaking land these men built several houses in 1878. Mr. Shaw built a very comfortable log house. William Butchard built a log house with a thatched roof. Robert S. Preston built a small house and Richard Preston put up the walls for his home. Robert S. Preston and Peter T. Butchard whipsaw-

ed a large quantity of lumber for the floors and doors of these houses. The most of the logs used were drawn from the bush on a crutch as there was no wagon in the settlement.

In December 1878, the older men, William Butchard, Richard and Robert S. Preston went east to their homes and left Peter T. Butchard, T. C. and Leonard Preston to spend the winter in the cabin on 13, 3-12. Unfortunately, Leonard died on Jan. 1, 1879. His body was buried on the homestead, among the oaks. Some years later, it was removed to the cemetery.

In April, the Prestons and William Butchard returned with their families and settled down to the life and work of pioneers. These families were originally from Ontario and had moved from there to North Carolina some six years before coming here.

Peter T. Butchard tells of the coming of his father's family in the following words: "I met the family at Emerson about the end of March, and loading them up in a covered wagon, we drove through water and ice, taking three and a half days to make the trip. On arriving at the Pembina river early in April, we found the river open and the question of getting across was somewhat of a problem. There was an ice jam just below the old ford, so we took our wagon box to pieces and strengthened the ice jam and moved everything across on that except the horses—had to swim them over. I may mention here that those coming in in 1878 had to come by boat down the Red River from Fisher's Landing. The end of steel was at Grand Forks. But during the fall and winter the steel was laid to St. Boniface, so that in 1879, the people going into that district left the railway at Emerson."

The settlement where the Butchards and Prestons located became known as "Preston." Here, in William Butchard's home a P. O. was opened and in 1879 a saw mill and a grist mill were operated on Sec. 13, 3-12 by James B. Preston. William Hallowell opened a store near the saw mill and the P. O. was transferred to the store. In 1881, the saw mill and the grist mill were burned down and the saw mill was rebuilt in the valley. Soon after the mill was rebuilt, James B. Preston had his arm cut off with the saw. Later he moved to Carnduff, where he died a few years ago. It is interesting to note that the two men who spent the winter of 1878-79 on Sec. 13, 3-12 are still alive and active. Peter T. Butchard is President and Manager of The Great West Land Co., Edmonton, and T. C. Preston is in Vancouver. Then the two Butchard girls, who were the first young women to come to this district, are still active. Bella, now Mrs. R. S. Thompson, is with her husband in Victoria, B. C., and Caroline, now Mrs. J. H. Stewart is in Crystal City. Bert Preston is now in Kaleden, B. C. Mrs. Donald Shaw is in Sarles, N. D. These three, Mrs. Shaw, Peter But-

chard and T. C. Preston are the only settlers of 1878 now alive. Edgar S. Preston is still on his father's homestead and is the only one of the Preston family now in the district.

The Half Breed Colony.

We have already stated that some of the French half-breeds rebelled against the Government. The Scotch and other half-breeds, however, remained loyal and a settlement of these loyal half-breeds and some others was formed in 1879. The forerunners of this Colony came in 1878. Alex. Denig, brother of Mrs. Charles Simpson (whose father was a wealthy Danish trader and whose mother was the daughter of an Indian Chief) crossed the Pembina and took a homestead on the East half of Section 33, 3-11. He, however, did not spend the winter here, but returned to the Boyne, near Carman. In the spring of 1879, he returned with other five men: Thos. Fiddler, Thos. Haughton, Edwin Olson, James Reid and Charles Simpson. Among them they homesteaded Sections 32, 33 and the East half of 34, 3-11. Later in the year, Ryer Olson, a Norwegian (father of Edwin) and his family, Andrew Hall and his family, the Fiddler family and the Simpson family arrived and settled in the bush. Charles Simpson, referred to above is the grandson of Sir Geo. Simpson, who was a Governor of The Hudson's Bay Co. Fifty years after the arrival of these settlers, Mr. Simpson and his wife are still citizens of Pilot Mound and Mrs. Paul Bourque, daughter of Thos. Fiddler, resides in Floral.

The Fraser Group.

James Fraser, the forerunner of the Fraser group arrived in Manitoba in August 1879 and having heard of The Paisley colony, came to this district to spy out the land. When he saw the old mound, he thought it would make a splendid site for a town and obtained the rights of Mr. Murdoch McQuarrie, who had located on the south half of Sec. 20, 3-11. Mr. Fraser returned to Ontario for the winter and in March 1880, came back to Manitoba. J. J. Fraser, J. M. Fraser, David Watson Jr., and Charles Sandercock were among the passengers on a special mixed train that left Wingham and arrived in Emerson on March 15. Some of the older men including James Fraser and George Mutch travelled on the regular passenger train and arrived before the others. The effects were transported to the mound on sleighs and the shack used by Mr. McQuarrie as a blacksmith's shop was fitted up as a dwelling. Beds, made with poplar poles and ticks filled with hay, were built three bunks high. Soon after the arrival of these men others joined the group, among whom were: Mrs. James Fraser, her two sons and six daughters, her father and mother, Mr. and

Mrs. Martin, Mrs. J. J. Fraser and her little children, John Stephen with his wife and family, George and Mrs. Mutch and family, James and Mrs. Harbottle and family and Alex. and Mrs. Duncan. It is interesting to note that the nine members of the family of James Fraser, who came to the Mound in 1880 are all still alive. John M. is in Victoria, George and Frank are also in B. C., Mrs. Paul and Mrs. F. Wood are in Pilot Mound. Mrs. McDougall is in Granum, Alberta, Mrs. Whiteside in Holmfild, Man., Mrs. Graham in Vancouver, and Mrs. McCulloch is in Kamloops. George Mutch and his family settled east of Crystal City, where several members of his family still reside. J. J. Fraser located in the bush, north of the mound, where his son George, and his daughter, Evelyn, still have their homes. The McKellar families came in soon after the Frasers. Malcolm located on Sec. 4, 3-11 and Hugh homesteaded part of Sec. 33, 2-11. Hugh later went to Clearwater, where he went into business.

To the names already mentioned, we should add that of James Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell came to this side of the Pembina in 1878, located his homestead, went east for the winter and returned in April 1879 with the Ritchies and others and homesteaded at what became Silver Springs.

Thus we have seen that several parties were west of the river in 1878 and that four groups spent the winter of 1878-79 in this district. These, in the order of their arrival were: John Adams and family, Donald Shaw and family, Peter Butchard and the Prestons and the Beveridge group.

CHAPTER II.

PILOT MOUND.

As early as the fall of 1879, a considerable number of people had located near the old mound. A trading centre was needed and to James Fraser, the vicinity of the mound seemed the right place for it. Here, then, on the eastern slope of the big hill, known among the Indians as "The little dance hill" the foundations for a town were laid. The name chosen was "Balmoral" but as there was a post office by that name in Manitoba another had to be selected. James Barbour then suggested that as the "Mound" had been a "Pilot" to many settlers travelling on the roadless prairie, the name should be "Pilot Mound." The quarter section on which the mound stands was taken as a homestead by Murdoch McQuarrie, who made blacksmith's coal out of wood and sharpened plowshares for the settlers in 1879.

James Fraser arrived at the mound early in 1880, having secured Mr. McQuarrie's land as previously stated. Soon after his arrival he bought the east half of Sec. 17 from Peter T. Butchard, the west half of Sec. 21 from Matthew Blackburn, a small parcel of land from D. A. Stewart and a piece from Mrs. Wilson. A town-site was then surveyed comprising about two hundred and fifty acres and town lots were sold as far east as Toronto.

In the early summer of 1880, J. M. Fraser built a shack in which he opened the first general store and a year later another store was opened by James B. Baird. These places of business changed hands frequently. Mr. Fraser sold to McBain and Shaw, in 1881. Thomas McKay bought out Mr. McBain's interests, Hamilton Wood purchased Mr. Shaw's interests. Later Mr. McKay became the sole owner of the business. In the summer of 1882, Mr. Baird sold to John and James McLean, not the James Charles and the John Gylan who opened the store in the new town in 1890. Then in the fall of the same year Mr. Baird bought back his store and carried on both in the old and in the new town.

Thos. and Chris. Godfrey opened the first hardware and tin-smith's shop. In 1882 they sold to Dedrick and son. Dugald Graham, in 1881, opened the first harness store. It was to this store that William Grassick came in 1882. Norman Whitten opened a boot and shoe store and J. J. Fraser started a blacksmith's shop.

In 1883, Mr. Fraser sold to James Stuart. In 1881 Alex. and Dave Stewart opened an implement agency for A. Harris and Son, and when they returned east, Thomas Bellamy took over the agency.

W. A. Donald, opened in 1882, a law office and in 1883, in partnership with J. M. Fraser, started a private bank. Mr. A. B. Elford, who had a share in the townsite and who was a banker came out from Winnipeg and helped to start the banking business. It was this Mr. Elford, who later built the Marshall hall, naming it as he did in memory of his son Marshall, who had died in infancy. Messrs. Donald and Fraser carried on their private bank for twenty-three years, when they sold out.

Robert Snowball, who was one of the first councillors of the town and N. B. Ramage were among those who did the building in the early days. William Robertson, of Gowancroft, was the first Justice of the Peace in the district.

A Post Office was opened on Nov. 1, 1880, with J. M. Fraser as Postmaster. For his services in that capacity, he received the handsome salary of ten dollars per year. Mr. Fraser was also the Clerk of the County Court.

Harry Spedding opened the first printing office, bringing in his printing press and type and publishing on September 14, 1881, the first issue of "The Signal" a copy of which is in the possession of Frank Wood. When the railway reached Manitou Mr. Spedding left the district and in 1889 John A. Murdoch started "The Pilot Mound Sentinel."

In 1881 a brickyard was started east of the Mound. Mr. Carson made brick by hand. Later Harry Steadman operated the brick yard and some years later, Tom Dearlove introduced a horse power machine. R. J. Duncan, for five summers used his steam engine in the brick yard and got bricks for his pay. This accounts, as Mr. Duncan puts it, for the quantity of brick around his farm.

One of the first brick houses built, was the home of James Fraser. This house is still standing on the south side of the Mound on Mr. Ayre's farm. In this house a Land Titles Office was opened in 1883 with John Knox as Registrar.

Beside the brickyard, there was a lime kiln operated by Mr. Beveridge, and a saw mill operated by McIntosh and McKenzie. A steam engine provided the power for the saw mill and the engine was used on the threshing machine during the threshing season. A flour and grist mill was built on the banks of the creek by T. P. and Ben White.

The first threshing outfit in the district was brought from Emerson in 1880 by Peter T. Butchard and R. J. Duncan. This horse or ox power machine threshed, in 1880, all the grain in the

settlements around the mound and went as far west as Mr. Stark's at the west end of Rock Lake and as far south as Mr. Peck's near the American boundary. In 1881 McIntosh and McKenzie brought in the first power threshing machine and in the same year the Parsonage brothers operated another horse-power outfit. It was while working around the last named machine that Talbot Wood was killed in the fall of 1881. The Parsonage brothers brought in the first self-binder, which used wire and not twine.

At least three hotels did business at the old mound. When James Fraser built his new brick house, his old home was opened as "The Manitoba House" by Sam Rowe. Later George Wood, father of Frank, bought out this hotel and changed the name to "The Norfolk House." In 1882 The Queen's Hotel was opened by Hall and Wood. About 1883, James Fraser built The Tremont House and when it was opened the Queen's closed. The new building was a large two storey L shaped structure 40x60. The first tenant was Mr. Godfrey and the manager was Robert Munroe. This building was moved to the new town and located on the corner where Mr. McLean's store now stands.

Pilot Mound School District.

The School District of Pilot Mound was organized in January, 1881, and a commodious school house was opened on June 15th of that year. Duncan McLean was the first teacher and James Barbour, Robert Blackburn Jr., and John Publow were the first trustees. D. A. Stewart was Secretary-Treasurer. The register now in the possession of D. A. Stewart, shows that forty-two pupils were enrolled and that the school was closed for plastering during part of October. For two years Normal classes were held at the Mound, when, in each year, a two-months' teachers training course was conducted by Prof. Goggins and W. A. McIntyre. A Mechanics' Institute with John Knox as the prime mover, also existed and under its auspices, a well selected public library was established.

Many others came and settled near the mound, in those pioneer days, who did not belong to any special group. Arthur Balfour and family located on the homestead of James Reid. Allan Kenny, Robert Anderson settled on Sec. 31, 3-11. Charles Wilson on the west half of Sec. 19, 3-11. Sam Hall on the Fraser Perfect farm, Sec. 15, 3-11 and R. J. Stephenson on the east half of Sec. 5, 3-11. Rudolf Von Wagner, an Austrian Count, homesteaded part of Sec. 24, 3-12.

Perhaps at this point we should say that while the pioneers had many hardships, they had too, many advantages in this dis-

tract. Surface water was used for some time but good wells soon became common. Then there was plenty of fuel. Every homesteader could get a twenty acre wood lot very cheap, from the government, as several sections of bush were reserved for wood lots. On the prairie, settlers could get "Tree Claims." These were given on the condition that the claimants planted a certain acreage with trees. One or two of these claims were taken up around the mound.

Here, too, we must mention the fact that for some years the top of the old mound was the picnic ground for the community. Several celebrations were held on the first of July and on the twelfth of the same month around the old flag pole. At the last big gathering held there the principle speaker was Sir John A. MacDonald.

CHAPTER III.

PIONEER WOMEN.

So far we have spoken mostly about the male members of the new settlement. Here, however, we must pay our tribute of respect to the memory of the pioneer women, who came to this district in 1879 and 1880. What it meant to them to leave comfortable homes and come here to live in sod-roofed shanties, we can only imagine. How often in times of sickness, the gentle hands of the neighbour woman soothed the pillow and stroked the fevered brow. How often willing hands plied the needle to make clothing for the expected baby! How often, in the absence of doctors and nurses, the lives of the mother and babe depended on the care of the woman nearby! What would the many bachelors have done, had not the women baked their bread, washed their clothes and darned their socks? How lonely it would have been for many if the hospitality of the family homes had not been extended to the bachelor boys and if they had not often been invited to stay for a cup of tea! Who were the women, you ask, who acted so generously and contributed so much comfort and rendered such unselfish service? All the women in the community, those at the Mound and those scattered around on homesteads. To these gracious unselfish women, who endured the hardships and privations of those early days and who encouraged their husbands, sons and neighbors in the midst of their many discouragements and disappointments, the present generation owes a debt of gratitude.

CHAPTER IV.

MUNICIPALITIES.

The Municipality of Louise was constituted in 1880 when the Marquis of Lorne and his wife, the Princess Louise were the occupants of the Government House in Ottawa. The names of the Governor General and his royal consort are perpetuated in these adjoining Municipalities, Lorne and Louise. The first meeting of the ratepayers of the Municipality was held on April 19th, 1880 at the home of Thomas Latimer, on Sec. 14, 2-11, about three miles east of Crystal City. The house was too small to accommodate those attending, consequently the meeting was held on a snowbank outside. W. J. Hallowell was returning officer and William Robertson was elected Reeve. The Councillors appointed were James Baker, Sam Hanford, John McTavish, Captain Reesor and R. S. Thompson. At the first Council meeting, held at the home of W. Robertson on Section 14, 3-11, D. A. Stewart was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality and a herd by-law was passed. At this meeting, too, Robert Miller was appointed as Councillor for Ward five as no representatives for Ward five were present at the ratepayers' meeting.

Pilot Mound.

The Municipality of Pilot Mound was incorporated in 1882 and James Fraser was elected as Mayor and James Beveridge, A. McDougall and Robert Snowball were the first Councillors. D. A. Stewart was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality. When the town was moved to the new site, the Municipality became disincorporated by act of Legislature and those owning town lots received about one dollar per lot or ten dollars per acre for their land. The new town was not incorporated until May 6th, 1904, James B. Baird was elected as Mayor, William Endicott, Dr. R. D. Ferguson, Charles Crothers and Robert Snowball were the first Councillors and J. D. Campbell, son of James Campbell, of Wood Bay, was appointed as Secretary-Treasurer.

The maugural meeting of the Village Council was held on the first day of June, 1904, in Graham's hall. Since then many have come and many have gone and it is becoming that we should here record the names of those who have served the community as Mayors and Councillors.

The Mayors are as follows: In old town, James Fraser and W. A. Donald. In the present town: James B. Baird (1904-1907), Dr. R. D. Ferguson (1908-1912), J. G. McLean (1913-1914), J. C. Stewart (1915-1916), G. W. Brisbin (1917-1918), Dr. R. D. Ferguson (1919-1923) and Alfred Moore (1924-1930.)

Those who have served on the Council since the new town was incorporated are in the order of their appointment, as follows: Dr. Ferguson, W. Endicott, C. Crothers, Robt. Snowball, James Hughes, D. W. Morden, G. W. Brisbin, K. Hewitt, J. G. McLean, James Winram, Robert McJannett, Charles Barber, Lorne Colquhoun, G. McLelland, William Tait, Dr. Bingham, W. O. Mayne, J. C. Stewart, T. J. Craig, D. B. Graham, J. C. McLean, A. E. Moore, W. A. Paul, W. Parsons, T. F. Hagyard, W. E. Cruise, R. W. Tuckwell, J. C. Winram and J. G. McLean.

On November 23rd, 1906, D. W. Morden was appointed as Secretary-Treasurer of the Village Council and held that office until June 4th, 1918, W. S. Smith acted for a little over a year, then Alex. Murdoch was appointed in 1920. Mr. Murdoch held office until his death in 1927. O. R. Schultz was appointed pro-tem and at the beginning of 1928, T. H. J. Walton, the present Secretary-Treasurer was appointed.

The passing of the Hydro By-Law on March 4th, 1927, and the coming of the power at the end of September in that year, are events worthy to be noted here.

The following men have been Reeves of the Municipality of Louise: William Robertson, Capt. R. Reesor, John Elson, R. S. Thompson, William Greenway, R. S. Preston, James Morrow, John Cowan, William McDonald, Thos. Baird and Robert Perfect.

CHAPTER V.

ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Adjacent to the Municipality of Pilot Mound and associated with it in many ways are several school districts regarding which, in alphabetical order, a word must now be said.

Copperfield.

Copperfield comes first. When the town was moved to its new site in the spring of 1886, Copperfield school district was organized. The name was suggested by D. A. Stewart who at the time was reading Dickens' book "David Copperfield." A School was started in the home of Mr. McLean on Section 28, 3-11 and in 1887, a school house was built. Arthur Balfour, Matthew Blackburn and James Barbour were the first trustees and Miss Mary Barbour, who is now associated with a Business College in Winnipeg, was the first teacher. The present brick school was built in 1912. For nine consecutive years, Miss Irvine was a successful teacher in Copperfield School. John Rathwell located in this district in the late eighties and moved to Winnipeg two years ago. The Vanderburgh family too settled early in this district on the homestead of Archie McGregor.

Dry River.

Dry River District was so named because of a dry river bed or coulee that ran through the settlement. The School District was organized in 1885 with David Bentley, Alex. McQuarrie and W. Robinson as trustees. School was opened in a private home in 1885, and the present school house was built and opened in 1886. The settlers drew the lumber used from Manitou. Miss Thring, of Belmont, was the first teacher. Among the early settlers were William Apperley, W. Craik, John Elson, William Elsey, Tom Fry, Joe Freedy, Pete Stemler, George Stewart, W. Tisdale, Sam Walker, Robert Kilgour, Thomas Richards, Archie McAulay and William Davies, who later moved to Pembina. W. Tisdale, who was a Surveyor, was frozen to death in a blizzard on his return from Mariapolis, where he went to get medicine for his sick wife.

Dry River Post Office was opened in the home of George Stewart in 1884.

Floral.

Gabriel Reid, a Scotchman and a brother of the James Reid, who came with the Simpsons and Fiddlers, was the first white man to settle in the bush south of Swan Lake. He was a cultured man who enjoyed the life of a recluse. He homesteaded on Section 30, 4-11, and settled there in 1881.

Fred Borque, a little later, located on 28, 4-11 and in 1882, J. J. Fraser, who had the blacksmith's shop at the Old Mound, filed on the north half of 16, 4-11 and built a shanty on the east side of the homestead. In 1883 Mr. Fraser built on the nw corner the first house in Floral district and in 1884, Mrs. Fraser and the family moved to this home. In 1883 William Grassick located on 20, 4-11 and moved from the Mound. In the same year, W. J. Kester homesteaded the south half of 16, 4-11 and in April 1885, Mrs. Kester and the family joined him. Others who went into this district in the early days were: Paul Borque, A. Birnie, Sydney Beech, Matthew Blackburn, Thomas Brewster, Rev. Robert Brown, James Carson, Donald Clark, Charles Embury, Richard Hall, James Hunter, William Hughson, Richard Popplestone, John Potter, and Joseph Whyte.

The Floral School District was organized in 1885, and the school was opened on September 15th of that year. Matthew Blackburn, William Grassick and Harry Steadman were appointed as trustees. Fred Balfour, whose father bought the farm homesteaded by James Reid on 32, 3-11 was the first teacher. The two little girls and the three little boys (Mary Grassick, Evelyn Fraser, John Grassick, Ed. Grassick and Geo. M. Fraser) who attended on the opening day are still citizens of Floral. For many years the Floral people carried on a Literary Society that contributed much to the social life of the community in those early days by arranging for debates and entertainments and by purchasing books for a library.

Two of the original settlers, William Grassick and W. J. Kester are still enjoying life in their comfortable homes, which take the places of the first "little hut among the bushes."

Goudney.

Into the district around "Dead Cat Coulee" as Goudney Creek was then called, there went in the early days, William Butchard, Peter Cram, R. J. Duncan, John and Robert Geddes, Joseph Haire, Hugh Lockhart, the Murdoch families, George and Dan McIntyre, Archie McLaren, William Pollard, the Preston families,

William Robinson, Donald Shaw, David Watson, Charles Duncan and John Wilson.

The School District was one of the first to be organized in these parts. The organization meeting was held during the winter of 1880-81 and on June 15, 1881, a school house was opened. William Butchard, James Murdoch and Donald Shaw were the first trustees and Miss Burke, a step-daughter of Rev. John Brown was the first teacher. She taught only a short time and was succeeded by Walter Sharpe, who was one of the very successful teachers of early days. R. J. Duncan and his wife are the only original settlers remaining in the district of Goudney. The Taits, the Ingrams, the Hunters, the Legaries, Tom Jones, William Mickle, Charles Elson, James Loney, James Mathers, Angus and James Currie, the Spearmans, the Howards and others have for many years been residents of Goudney.

Gowancroft.

William Robertson, who in 1878 came as far as Nelsonville, and his sons John and Robert T. and George Wood with his sons Talbot, Hamilton and S. C., took up homesteads in Gowancroft district in 1879. Frank Wood, Philip A. and Edward Blake Robertson were with their parents, but were not old enough to homestead. Mrs. James Harbottle, J. Godkin, Rev. John Brown, Herbert Burke, F. Publow and J. and B. Hope were among the early settlers in this district. During the winter of 1882-83, a school district was organized and in 1883 a school was opened with Miss White as teacher and John Brown, John Godkin and R. T. Robertson as trustees. The school building now used was built in 1903. It was near Gowancroft, on the farm of Captain Reesor that the first agricultural society fair was held in the fall of 1880 and it was Sec. 19, 3-10 that was subdivided into town lots in the hope that the divisional point on the railway would be located there. The name for the proposed town was Hanlan City.

William Robertson named his farm Gowancroft, that is "A field of daisies" and when the S. D. was organized the name of the farm became the name of the district.

E. P. Cavers and George Perfect may not be classed as pioneers, but still their names, with those of their sons and that those of Dan Gilmour, Hans Hanson, who was the first-section foreman on the local railroad division, John Armstrong and Robert McGowan are worthy of mention as citizens of Gowancroft in the early days. R. T. Robertson is the only original homesteader left in the community.

Huron.

Most of the early settlers in this district, came as the name suggests from Huron. Amongst them were: William Baker, J. Cardno, James Cram, William Elliot, James and Robert Gorrell, U. S. Jory, W. Landerkin, T. Latimer, Hugh Mann, R. McKay, Malcolm McKellar, Colin and John McKinven, Samuel J. Treble, Sandy Porter, James Paterson and his son Richard, Robert Thompson, William Weaver, William and A. E. Werry. The school district was organized on August 25, 1883 and the school opened in 1884. Norman Taylor was the first teacher and James Gorrell, Robert McKay and W. Werry were the first trustees. Robert McKay was the first secretary-treasurer. John Gemmell and his brother William, who settled in Huron with their families were not pioneers by any means, but their names are worthy of a place among the citizens of this district.

Londesboro.

The School District was organized in 1880 and a school was opened in 1881. The first trustees were David Cluff, Thomas Hagyard and Sam McLean. Thomas Hart, a young Englishman was the first teacher. In the early days, religious services were conducted in Londesboro by Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Crystal City. After the arrival of the original colony, already referred to, others came and settled in this district among whom were John Sterling, James McLean, George Cockerline, Richard and Charles Sandercock, John McDonald, William McDonald, Fred Hall, who later sold to H. Boote, Sam Frith, John Southcombe, Aaron McLean and William McCoy, who later moved to Silversprings.

Marringhurst.

In May 1879 John and Mrs. Wilson with their sons Richard and James and their daughter Louise (now Mrs. T. J. Walton) crossed the Penibina River a mile east of Rock Lake and settled in what is now Marringhurst. John Wilson homesteaded on 21, 3-12 and Richard chose part of 20, 3-12. Mrs. Wilson being the first white woman to settle in Marringhurst district. In the same year, Murdock McQuarrie located on 19, 3-12, John Montague on 30, 3-12 and John and Jacob Nelson took up 32, 3-12. Mr. McQuarrie's home became the social centre for the district. Here a Post Office was opened, the mail being carried from the Mound on an oxcart by Thomas Feely, who opened the P. O. at Glenora. Here, too, Mr. McQuarrie started a blacksmith's shop and in the log house still standing and used by Mr. McWilliams as a granary, Church services were held.

The School District was organized in the winter of 1881-1882 with D. Bentley, William Galloway and John Wilson as trustees. In the early summer of 1882 the school was opened with Chris. Lawrence as teacher. D. W. Morden and J. J. Elsey were among the first pupils. The books show an entry to the effect that on March 17, 1885, J. J. Elsey received one dollar for lighting the fires. The present school was erected in 1892.

The settlers co-operated in building, at their own expense, a bridge over the river at the site of the present bridge. This work was done during the winter of 1879-80.

After the erection of the bridge, many others located in Mar-ringhurst, among whom were the following: James Baird, David Bentley, William Clegg, William Cressard, John Cummings, the Dunn Brothers, Henry Elsey, William Galloway, John Gray, James Greaves, Andrew Gibson, Alex. and Dan McMillan, Philip Morden, Jas. B. Standing, R. S. Thompson, George Walker and Rev. W. Walton. Later on Alex. McWilliams, James Cruickshanks, William Webb, the Wardells, Robert and William Robinson located in Marrinhurst. V. L. Cooper took charge of the school in 1900 and taught for six consecutive years. Dr. Little, Noble and George Lawrence and others went further west and located near Glenora, where Noble Lawrence still resides. Sam King, who is now about 100 years old, has spent about half of his life in Glenora.

James Wilson is the only original settler now in the district. He and his son Ralph reside on the old homestead and George and Una are on the homestead of their father Richard Wilson. Frank Nelson is on his father's preemption and the other boys Mark, Jack and Lloyd are located nearby.

Pembina.

This district was organized in 1889. The territory embraced in the district was covered with bush, and was not settled as early as other parts. In 1881, J. C. Fleming, James Deering, Peter Drummond and James Luke located in this part. A year later, W. and J. Leary, John Pomroy, Charles and David Close took up land here. Then James Dimma, H. Huston, Jonathan Mussell and others located nearby. The school was built in 1889 with J. Fleming, S. Beech and R. Popplestone as trustees and Harry LaMere as teacher. Rev. W. Walton was the first to conduct religious services in the district. These were held in the granary of John Leary. Sydney Beech, who homesteaded in Floral district, moved to Pembina in February 1889 and is the only one of the early settlers left in the district. The Hayward family, the McKay's, the Morrows and the Norrie family, may be numbered among the early settlers in Pembina.

Silversprings.

This district may not now be regarded as part of Pilot Mound community, but in the early days when Robert Armstrong kept the stopping place and the Post Office near the site of the present school, the pioneers were closely associated with Silver Springs. Among the early settlers in the district we find, John Elliot, William Esler, Thomas Fargey, John Hope, John Kettleton, Alex. Johnstone, Robert Johnstone, William Kerr, William McDougall, Eric McKay, James Mitchell and sons James, Nelson, David and Harry, William Morrow and his sons William, James and John, James and John Pollock, William Ritchie and his sons, William, James and Tom, Elijah Tooke.

The School District was organized in 1881 when Robert Armstrong, Alex. Johnstone and John Pollock were elected as Trustees. Miss Paul was the first school teacher and Mrs. T. L. Fargey (nee Miss Montieth) had charge of the school in 1887.

Stuartville.

Stuartville was one of the last school districts to be organized in this neighborhood and was so named because of the Stuarts in the district. James Stuart who was a blacksmith at the Mound bought the ne $\frac{1}{4}$ of 26, 3-12 from Joseph Phenix and located there in 1891. Abraham Diedrick, who had the tinsmith shop at the Mound moved earlier to 2, 4-12. John D. Stewart homesteaded the north half of 36, 3-12 and Wm. McLean homesteaded the south half of the section. Later John A. Stuart bought Mr. McLean's land and S. Evans bought Mr. Stewart's. Other early settlers in Stuartville, Robert Anderson, Hugh Brewster, T. Cartwright, James Freedy, James Haire, Allan Kenny, D. McLean, Wm. McLean, William North and George White. Section 23, 3-12, where Archie and Bruce Curry now reside was originally in Stuartville and James Curry, father of Bruce, was one of the original school trustees. The other trustees were John A. Stuart and James Stuart. The School District was organized in 1894. Alex. Murdoch was the first teacher and taught continuously for six years.

Wood Bay.

Wood Bay was so named because the prairie penetrated the bush just as if it was a bay in the wood. It was in this district that James Kemp took up the land in the spring of 1879, where his son Clyde now resides. Many of the early settlers were associated with the Browns in Lanark Co., Ontario. In this district Peter McIntosh and his sons Peter and John located in 1879. R. P. Affleck homesteaded the farm where his son now resides. James Fallis

and his sons Parker, Alex., Albert and John, the Hammonds, Henry and Matthew, James Campbell, James Rankin, James Rooke and Dr. T. Rooke, James Arnott, James and William Bethune, James Masson, Sam Hammell, William Munroe, Rev. John McKinnon, D. A. McKenzie, who had the mill at the old mound and whose son Don is still here, Fred Cleeve, H. Tooke, W. Wolseley and William Beech were among the early settlers. H. Steadman, who was much sought after as an entertainer home-stayed the West Half of 35, 3-11. The School District was organized in 1883 with Miss K. Race as teacher and James Campbell, James Rankin and James Rooke as trustees. For a few years Rev. Robert Brown conducted religious services in the homes of James Campbell and later John L. Brown took to wife a daughter of Mr. Campbell, and later still, John Cruise followed in Mr. Brown's footsteps.

The Reesor brothers, Robert and David, located on 30, 3-11 and in 1885 their sister Mrs. Simmonds and her family came to reside with them. This land was originally in Silver Springs School District but the Simmonds' went to Wood Bay School. Later the family moved to Londesboro, where James still resides. Mrs. Cruise, with her family moved to Wood Bay in the early days and located on 9, 4-10. John and William have long been respected citizens of the Mound. James Burns, brother-in-law of James Arnott was another early settler. The McLeod family, the Maynes, the Gilmours and the Jones' have long been residents of Wood Bay. It is interesting to recall that Richard Stead, father of R. J. Campbell Stead, the famous author, lived for a short time on the Masson farm when his famous son was just a little boy. In fact it was here that the boy began to write for newspapers. For some time he was the Wood Bay correspondent to The Sentinel. Mrs. James Fallis, who located in Wood Bay, in 1879, is now in her eighty-third year and is residing in the Mound.

Purves and Eton.

While developments were taking place around the Mound in the districts mentioned, in other parts the same progress was being made. In what is now Purves district, the following located: Geo. Brewster, W. Craik, J. N. Evans, John Dixon, W. J. Gosnell and his sons George and Tom, James Melvin, Robert Millar and his sons, Geo. McKay, J. C. Hogarth, J. C. Snetsinger and Pete Stemler. Here a school was started in 1884 with Geo. Downie as the first teacher and W. Craik, Geo. McKay and J. C. Snetsinger as trustees. Then there went into the Eton District and further south, Milton Bryce, John Elson, Steve Lyons, George Mutch, Peter McLaughlin, John Peck, Geo. Kerfoot, the Fallis family and others.

W. D. Ruttan located on Section 30, 2-9, where he opened a store and Post Office at Ruttanville for the benefit of the people around Londesboro and Purves.

Crystal City and District.

Crystal City and district developed as quickly as the Mound. Among the early settlers in this locality we find many who came on the first emigrant train arranged for by Mr. Greenway. Among them were Henry Cudmore, John and Mrs. Ring, James Parr, James Baker, Robert and Tom Baker, Thomas Sando, wife and family, Ed. and Arthur Rollins, Silas Rand, and Thomas Smallacombe.

Others who came in the early days were Thomas and William Greenway, John Greenway, who was the first preacher in the settlement, Mr. Parr Sr., Joe Rollins, Aaron and Mrs. Cudmore and five children, James Collins, James Sullivan, who was the first blacksmith in the district, Henry Taylor and his sons, Ed. James, George and Hill. James Reid, part of whose land was in the first townsite, Robert Rollins, who started the first store in the town, Joseph Rogers, Peter McLaren, Archie Taylor and his sons, John, William and Alex., James McNamee and others.

Tom and Frank Bell, Rev. D. A. B. Stottard, W. Affleck went into the district where John Adams had located. Here the Oaks School District was organized later.

Crystal City School District was organized in 1880. Aaron Cudmore, William Greenway and Mr. Parr were the first trustees. Dr. Riddell was the first medical man and Rev. Andrew Stewart was the first Methodist Minister in the settlement. In the early days Mr. Greenway brought in pure bred stock and sold it in a large pavilion he built for the purpose. When the railway came the town was moved to its present site.

In the pioneer days, William and John McKitrick went into the district now known as Rosebud.

Snowflake, Starmound and McKenzie.

Starmound and the southern district was tributary to Pilot Mound in the days before the railway was built to the boundary and opened in 1900. A great number of those who came from Lanark and other parts with those who settled around the Mound went into the south country. Among those early settlers of 1879, we find James Connor, George Spence and his two sons, James and Joe, Fred Shilson, Adam Maxwell, J. D. Robertson, Adam

Donaldson, who was drowned during the summer of that year, Allan, Neil, and Archie McAulay, William, Sam, Richard and John Phair, H. Albert, John Ewen, Joe Darragh, R. Millar with his wife and daughter and two sons, Mr. Millar was a local preacher and a very fine man.

In 1880, J. T. Robertson with his wife, two daughters and five sons (Annie, Minnie, John, R. T., W. H., T. and Allan) located on the side of Starmound. Mrs. Adam Maxwell and family arrived in the same year. In 1881, Mrs. Spence and her two daughters and W. and Mrs. Shilson and their family, Sarah, John, Frank, Frude, Rowland and Earnie. Mrs. J. T. Robertson and Mrs. Maxwell were the first white women in Starmound district.

In 1879, several people came to this part with Mr. Greenway's party. They were Caleb Hanford, who was the first school teacher, Sam and Thomas Hanford, James, Frank and Alex. Caves, John Hicks and family, William Cobbledick and family (Thomas, William and Fannie), Sam and Mrs. Oke and family. Mrs. Oke was the first white woman in Snowflake district and Mr. Oke was the first Post Master. Others who came were R. Marshall, J. Patterson, R. Neil, Joe McFarlane, Ed. Stewart, whose homestead became the townsite of Snowflake, Joe Stewart, Peter Findlay, John Howey, Luke, Sam and A. Manning, Jim Blake, James and John Bissett, John and Mrs. Dew and family, John Sims, Charles and Mrs. Sinis, Archie Connor, who kept the stopping place known as "The Ramrod House." Others who came were: R. Watson, John and W. Neil, James McWilliams, J. Millijour, J. Henner, Jim Howell, John Drew, William Trott, Alf. Fairbairn and James Fyfe.

Charles and Mrs. Strachan, David Lang, James Blake, Joe Jillett and the Vroomans settled in McKenzie district.

CHAPTER VI.

MEMORIES AND INCIDENTS.

In preparing this volume the writer has corresponded with a large number of old-timers, who have gladly answered questions and given information. From some of the letters received and from other sources we have selected the following incidents that are now "memories" to many of the pioneers. These incidents will give the younger folks some insight into the conditions in the midst of which, the pioneers lived and labored.

Told by J. M. Fraser (Victoria, B. C.)

"I was to be married the fall of 1882, and went to Emerson to get my house furnishings, etc. with two other young men with teams and wagons for company and to bring back freight. On the third afternoon we stopped at a small village 15 miles from Emerson to feed our horses, warm ourselves and get a cup of coffee. The house we went into was a one-story 12x24 shack, the stove in one end and the bed in the other. We crowded around the stove. The lady of the house was cutting a man's hair. Soon after, another man came in and took the job off her hands. Then she came over to the stove, reached over to the tea kettle, took off the lid and washed her hands in it. Then she went to the table, spread some bread with what we thought was axle grease and gave it to the children. We decided not to wait for coffee."

One of our new settlers was Rudolf Von Wagner, a count from Austria. He had the best of clothes, received large quarterly remittances, was the politest of men when he wished, had a terrible temper when crossed, shot a pony because it balked, shot a nice dog because it would not retrieve properly. He did not like something Mr. William Robertson said to him one day, and he said, "If it were not for your age I would thrash you." Mr. Robertson squared up to him and said, "Never mind my age. Come on!" But he flunked. He homesteaded part of 24, 3-12 and after a few years drifted to Winnipeg and disappeared. Wagner wanted to buy an interest in my store but I did not want him.

I was in the saw mill one day when two Indians came in. They watched the saw cutting off boards. Then they took a board and felt it over with their hands, and said, "White man great!"

N. B. Ramage, a cousin of my wife, helped to build quite a few buildings both in the old and new town. When he was proving up on the homestead he was credited with tying a sheaf of oats on the plow tongue just out of reach of the oxen to make them walk faster.

In May 1882 or 1883 the frost was so severe that on the 24th you could cross sloughs on the ice with horse and rig.

I started a store in a small shack bringing the lumber to build it from Emerson. The snow left a lot of water that spring, for one day I had a visit at my store from Wm. Robertson, Norman Whitten and R. T. Robertson, and they came in a boat all the way from their farm, which would be hard to believe now.

N. B. Ramage took some eggs to the store one day and was allowed six cents per dozen for them. Ramage said he wanted a bill of it. The merchant said, "What do you want a bill of it for, when you are going to trade it out?" He said he wanted to take the bill home and show it to the hens so they wouldn't lay any more eggs in his yard.

The young people used part of the mound for a toboggan slide using one half of a bob sleigh, but one evening George M. Fraser had his leg broken, which put a damper on this sport. Mr. Fraser still lives in Floral district.

In the fall of 1880 I noticed a small flock of geese light on some breaking a quarter mile away. I got my shot gun and one of my father's oxen, led the ox towards the flock, keeping the ox between me and the geese, getting within 30 or 40 yards before they prepared to fly. I had a shot at them as they rose and thought I had missed, but one detached itself from the flock and went off in a bee line on its own account and dropped nearly a mile away, where I followed and picked it up.

Told by D. A. Stewart.

Sam Hall and George Wood were neighbors residing about a mile apart and their houses were similar. George went to spend the evening with Sam, arriving before sunset. It was a fine evening in March, but the weather changed, snow was falling and the wind was blowing. Sam advised George to remain all night. "Oh, no thanks, I know my way home as well as I know my way to bed when I get there" said George and started off. In about twenty minutes he was back at Sam's house. Again asked to remain, he refused saying: "I will make a fresh start and make the trip this time. In less than twenty minutes, he was back at Sam's house again. As he was determined to go home, Sam volunteered to ac-

company him, so they took the trail and after travelling for some time reached a house. "Well, said George, "We made it at last, come in and warm yourself, Sam." When they entered, they were surprised to find themselves back in Sam's house. Both laughed heartily and George decided he would be Sam's guest for the night.

Dan, who was a pioneer homesteader on the Glenora prairie, related the following story. It was June, and I left the Mound in time to cross the valley before dark. I was driving a heavy team and the pace was a walk. When I thought I should be home, I came to a house with no light in the window. Not recognizing where I was I kept on going and seemed to be passing a large number of houses. Well, at break of day I came to a farm where there were a lot of mowers, etc. By goodness, I said to myself, I must be more than forty miles from home. Here is a big farmer I never heard about. Just then I heard a voice saying "Hello, Dan, where are you going so early in the morning?" "Is that you Murdock?" I said. I was at Murdock McQuarrie's and found later I had been travelling around my own home almost all night. I learned then that my horses were able enough to take me home and I depended on them.

Told by D. D. Campbell (Winnipeg)

The Pioneer Women deserve great credit for the making of this country what it has become, as they bore all the hardships without a murmur in nearly all cases.

As an example of good pluck, Mary Laidlaw, a girl of 16, in the summer of 1880 rode in a wagon from Emerson to the Pembina River, 75 miles. The team got stuck coming through a slough in Tp. 2, R. 8 and part of the load had to be left there. H. McKeller had to return for it. Mary said if she could get across the river that she would walk to near Pilot Mound where her brother Stewart had settled. She was taken across the River in a wagon box, and started on her journey of near 20 miles, with Pilot Mound as her guide, when about 5 miles on her way she called at W. D. Ruttan's house for a drink of water and then headed for Pilot Mound with very faint track to guide her, but she reached her journeys end safely.

The first grist we got ground, we threshed the sheaves in the wagon box, blew the chaff out with the wind, and I went to Emerson and got it ground, left on Wednesday noon and arrived home Saturday night with the flour.

Extracts from the Diary of Alex. Murdoch.

Nov. 1, 1880 "Bad prairie fire swept from south."

Feb. 7, 1881: "School meeting, arrangements were made to

have logs taken out to build school (Goudney), logs to cost 40 cents each delivered."

Oct. 4, 1881: "Lime kiln kept burning all night."

Told by Mrs. Rev. Dr. Farquharson.

"Toward the end of September 1880, the Missionary returned to Toronto. By this time a stage was running to Emerson, but it was too costly and as he had walked so much during the summer, Mr. Farquharson decided to walk to Emerson. His trunk was sent ahead with an ox team. He set out on a Monday morning in the midst of a pouring rain. The first day he walked forty-five miles. On the second day he was nearing Emerson very weary and his feet were bleeding, when by chance a fanning mill peddler passed that way. He poured no oil on the wounded feet, but he gave the travel stained Missionary a ride to Emerson."

Mrs. Farquharson tells of driving through fields of grain on Sept. 6, 1883, to spend the evening at the home of Rev. John Brown. It was "one of the finest crops that ever grew," "Horses were almost hidden from view by the standing grain." Then frost! "The results of a season's work were shattered in a night. Alas for the fond hopes of golden grain hauled to market and exchanged for golden coins." "It was a bitter disappointment, but the settlers did not repine nor become discouraged." The frozen wheat was made into flour and heavy loaves were the result of the baker's efforts."

In her "Recollections" Mrs. Farquharson tells of a snow storm that came when Mr. Farquharson, Mrs. Beveridge and herself were returning to the Mound from the home of Mrs. W. Robertson. In the midst of the blizzard they reached the shack of Matthew Blackburn. Next morning the shack was literally buried in snow and the inmates had to be dug out.

Told by the Author.

The late William Weaver often told the writer of this volume how he had seen a new settler camp near his homestead in the summer of 1879 and make his bed under his wagon. Early in the morning, the stranger found that his mules had wandered off and he asked Mr. Weaver to help him to locate them. The grass was four feet high and the two men went off in different directions. After wandering around for a while Mr. Weaver saw the mules but he could not see any sign of the stranger. In the evening, he went over to Mr. Preston's and got others to help him to search for the man. The next day the dead body was found and was taken to Emerson for an inquest.

Told by J. D. Robertson (Crystal City)

It was on a Saturday when Adam Maxwell and Adam Donaldson were going from Star Mound to Nelsonville that the mishap took place. The wagon had been taken apart and pulled across the river and the team had swam over. Mr. Donaldson got on the back of one of the ponies to warm it with running. He took a wrong trail and horse and rider went over the bank into the river. Twice they both came to the surface, the horse came up a third time and swam ashore, but the rider disappeared. On Sunday morning I got an iron rod and for several hours I dived and dragged the river from a boat, but no trace of the body could be found. About ten days later the body came to the surface about half a mile from the place of the accident. It seemed from the body that the horse had kicked Mr. Donaldson. The body was taken from the water by Mr. Maxwell and myself, reverently placed in a rude casket and buried on the banks of the river. I sent his watch and other belongings to his friends near London, Ont. About a month from the time of his drowning, Mr. Donaldson was to be married.

Mr. Maxwell and I started off for the bush in the valley on a very bright morning during the winter of 1879. From the valley we could hear sounds of a coming storm, and when we got to the level of the prairie we encountered a genuine blizzard. We let the horses take us and after travelling for some time, I said to Mr. Maxwell, if the horses have gone in the right direction, we should be at our shack soon. Scarcely had the words been uttered when the horses stopped. I got down, but could not make out where we were. We seemed to be at a mountain of snow. I then saw a lump of hard snow that gave me a cue. The horses had stopped right on the top of the stable, which was covered with a snow drift. Fortunately, there was a strong post and beam under the roof of poles that prevented the roof from falling in. I assure you we lost no time in getting the team off."

Told by Walpole Murdoch (Santa Monica, California)

Sometimes my thoughts go back to a sultry summer's night more than fifty years ago, when we were camped on the prairie near the little creek of Goudney. Our tent was a good one and at the time we were proud of this form of habitation. Once Abraham lived in a tent and shared its hospitality with angels. No angels visited our tent, but a sudden and terrific thunder storm did. There were three of us and when the wind rose, accompanied by flashes and crashes of the hurricane, brother Alex. held the front pole of the tent and I held the back pole, while father sat on the bed and looked on with humorous interest and then an extra fierce gust of wind ripped the tent from all the fastenings and it van-

ished into the darkness of night. Soon the down pour of rain was over, morning dawned and the sun rose with comforting brightness.

In the pioneer days, prairie fires formed most exciting times, and were frequently the cause of suffering and loss. Once brother Frank and I were chased by a swift prairie fire as we drove an ox team with a wagon load of wood. We were in a deep meadow of dry grass and the head of the fire passed very close with the speed of a hare. We barely escaped and then learned more about fires that sometimes swept thinly settled districts before the autumn breeze leaving behind a black path of destruction.

Though early frosts frequently destroyed many of the wheat crops, gardens of vegetables were productive on every homestead. Foultry and eggs were plentiful. Beef, pork, turnips and potatoes were so abundant that there was never scarcity of food even when there was scarcity of money. There were roast ducks, fried chickens, wild and tame, custard pies, Johnny cakes from Indian corn meal raised at home and ground in the local mill. The first settlers were happy.

In the woods wild fruit of many kinds was common. There were currants, gooseberries, raspberries, saskatoons and plums. In the fall, gathering hazel nuts and pungent hops formed enjoyable picnic parties for young people, who observed grouse in the grass by the wayside, mallards on the reed encircled ponds and jumping deer where the trees grew. The pioneer days were jewel days that still flash in the memory with joy.

Rock Lake, the glittering gem of the county, is still as attractive as during the pioneer days when holiday groups first assembled by its side. The woods around the rock strewn shore are still delightful with the melody of birds and the fragrance of forest flowers. The departed spirit of the wilderness, driven from the plains by busy towns and hurrying cars, seems to have found a congenial and permanent retreat in this secluded spot.

CHAPTER VII.

THE CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY.

Church services filled a big place in the lives of the early settlers. In the early summer of 1879, Henry Parsonage, who homesteaded on Sec. 27, 3-11, conducted services in the home of Mr. Beveridge. At the first of these services, there were eight men, two women and two boys present. Mr. Parsonage took as his text "Wisdom is the principle thing, therefore get wisdom." Then in October of that year, Rev. H. J. Borthwick, a minister of the Presbyterian Church, came from Mountain City occasionally, and preached in the Mound settlement, at Star Mound and in other parts of this district. The services were held in several homes, including those of Mr. Beveridge, Mr. Allen, Mr. Davies, Thos. Fiddler, James Fraser, James Murdoch, M. McQuarrie, R. Preston, W. Robertson and W. Weaver. It was in the home of James Fraser that the first Communion service in this locality was held on the last Sunday in August, 1880. The Service was conducted by the student missionary, James Farquharson, assisted by Professor Bryce. It was at the close of this service the first Church organization was effected "Managers were appointed and arrangements made for the support of Gospel ordinances." The wine used at this first Sacrament, had been made, and brought from Ontario, by Mrs. Alex. Murdoch.

Dr. James Farquharson.

Here we must say a word about the student referred to above. James Farquharson, a Scotch student from Knox College, Toronto, was sent to Rock Lake district in 1880 and was destined to play a big part in the history of the Community. In the Fall of 1880, he returned to College. Then in January, 1882, he came again to the Mound, bringing with him his gracious wife, and was inducted as the Minister of the Charge of Rock Lake. He remained as Minister of the Presbyterian Church until 1905, when he was "called" to open a Church office in Winnipeg. In 1920 he was invited by his old parishioners to return to the scenes of his long fruitful ministry, and to spend the evening of his life in a cosy home bought for him by his many friends in the district. In this home he passed to his reward on April 15th, 1925, and his body was laid to rest among those of many of his old friends and comrades of those pioneer days.

In the meantime, Rev. Mr. Stewart, Methodist Minister, of Crystal City, conducted services at Londesboro and other parts, and in 1881, Baptist services were held at the Mound by Mr. Millard, a student. Rev. John Brown for four years conducted services in the home of the McKinvens and in other parts of the district.

It may be interesting in passing to note that either James Barbour or J. J. Fraser acted as Precentor at most of the services held in the Mound settlement.

The schoolroom at the old Mound was used for Church services until the Marshall hall was built. The hall became the Community centre and was used for Church purposes, both at the old Mound and in the new town, until the different denominations erected Church buildings of their own.

The Methodist Church was built in the Fall of 1886. Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Crystal City, conducted the services until Rev. Thomas Lawson was appointed in 1889, as the first resident minister. The building was used until 1925 when local Union was consummated. In 1927 it was sold to the School Board and is now used as a school room.

Knox Presbyterian Church was built in 1888 and is still used as a place of worship by the congregation of the United Church. To the original building there was added in 1927 a commodious Club Room.

The Baptists built a Church in 1888 and continued to worship in it until 1911 when, owing to removals, the Congregation as such, ceased to meet and some years later the building was sold.

The Roman Catholics had a number of adherents in the district and a Church was built in 1897. Services were held for seven or eight years, when the Church was closed, and the building sold to W. J. Collins, who moved it to the rear of his home.

As early as 1882, Anglican Services, conducted by Rev. L. O. Armstrong, of Emerson, were held in the homes of the people in this district. In 1884, the Parish was established as part of Clearwater Mission. C. N. Jeffreys—now Canon Jeffreys—was student in charge.

The Church edifice was erected in 1899 and was formally opened on Sept. 10th of that year by the Very Rev. Bishop Machray, of Rupert's Land. In 1897, James Winram was appointed Warden and still holds that office. In 1926 a Parish hall was erected near the Church building.

In 1925 local Church Union was consummated between the

Methodists and Presbyterians and the United Church of Pilot Mound organized.

No record of Church activities in this district would be complete without mention being made of the organization of the first Sunday School in the district. This was effected in the summer of 1879. The School met in the home of R. J. Duncan. James Murdoch and Donald Shaw were the first superintendents.

CHAPTER VIII.

TRANSPORTATION.

In the early days, of course, there were no roads and no bridges. Trails led from one settlement to another and from one homestead to the next. The Pembina had to be forded at the old Pembina crossing and all goods and freight had to be transported from Emerson. James Reid and others made freighting their business and in 1880, a stage ran from the Mound to Emerson.

Hugh Lockhart and Peter Cram built a toll bridge near the old crossing. This, however, was washed away. They then built a scow, and helped to take travellers across the river. In 1882, when the railway reached Manitou, a bridge was built at La Riviere, and Manitou became the market town for the Mound Settlement. However, the settlers wanted a railway nearer than Manitou and it was suggested that "The Rock Lake, Souris Valley and Brandon Railway" should be built. The idea was to build a railway from Pilot Mound to Brandon. In the fall of 1884, a meeting of the Reeves of the Municipalities to be affected by the proposed railway and the Mayors of Brandon and Pilot Mound was held at the Mound, when Hon. J. W. Sifton, Brandon; Frank Burnett, S. Cypress; Mr. Creamer, Argyle; R. S. Thompson, Louise; and James Fraser, Pilot Mound, were present. It was decided at that meeting to seek a charter for the railway. Robert Rogers, T. S. Menary and D. A. Stewart were appointed to draw up a prospectus to be submitted to a meeting to be held in Brandon on March 11th, 1885. The Delegates from the south, who were appointed to attend this meeting were W. A. Donald, Thos. Greenway, D. A. Stewart and R. S. Thompson. The Municipalities undertook to finance the obtaining of a charter and actually raised a sufficient amount to pay the expenses incurred. W. A. Donald was appointed Solicitor and D. A. Stewart, Treasurer, of the provisional board. The Provincial Government granted the Charter, but the Dominion Government refused its sanction to it. However, the efforts put forth aroused the C. P. R., and the South Western Railway was extended, in 1885 to Boissevain and the northern Branch was built from Elm Creek to Glenboro. Although strenuous efforts were made to get the railway to touch the old Mound, the engineers could not, without considerable difficulty take the railway to the town, so the town was taken to the railway during the winter of 1885-86.

CHAPTER IX.

THE NEW TOWN.

In referring to the new town, we shall simply quote from an article written by D. A. Stewart, M. P., and published in "The Sentinel" on Dec. 31st, 1902.

"With the new town came new blood. Chalmers and Watson opened out in their present line of business George Dow started in the milling business. A year or two later he entered into partnership with Adam Curry and erected in 1893 The Great West Oatmeal Mills, whose products are famed for their excellence over Canada and the Old Country. Their firm also ships oatmeal to Leith, Scotland. J. A. Hobbs, of Morden, opened out in drugs and stationery. John Heibert, a general store, while in 1890, J. G. McLean & Co. also began business as general merchants. D. B. Graham, Fraser and Co., Thomas McKay, of the Montreal House, J. B. Baird, A. McDougal, are pioneers among the business men of the town, all of them being in business since the early eighties."

CHAPTER X.

INDUSTRIES.

No history of Pilot Mound would be complete without a brief reference to the industries of the district. The fact has already been stated that two grist mills, two saw mills and a brick yard operated in the pioneer days. Besides these, two joint stock creameries have done business nearby. One of these was started by William Taylor in Crystal City as a cheese factory. When it was converted into a creamery, R. J. Duncan was appointed as President. In 1895, Fairplay Creamery Co., was incorporated with Jas. McCool, President, W. Grassick, Secretary, and J. J. Fraser, Treasurer. The management brought from London, Ont., a first class buttermaker in the person of S. A. Johansen. The "Fairplay" operated for thirteen years and then closed down. The excessive cost of gathering the cream and hauling the butter to the railway made it impossible for this creamery to compete with others at railway centres.

In the early days of the new town, Geo. White operated a grist mill and McDonald and Band built another mill, near the present location of Pete Stemler's home. This was sold to Dow and Will, and later it was burned down. Mr. Dow then formed a partnership with Adam Curry and erected a large oatmeal mill in town. This mill was burned down in 1911.

CHAPTER XI.

EARLY BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

There was no Registrar in this district, until the appointment of D. A. Stewart in 1882. After assuming office, Mr. Stewart registered every birth, etc., of which he had any knowledge. The records that were made by him and that are now in the Parliament Buildings, Winnipeg, show that one birth took place in the settlement during the year 1879. Margaret Blackburn, now Mrs. Matthew Shewfelt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Blackburn, was born on Nov. 15th of that year. Mrs. Shewfelt has the honor of being the first white child born in this part of Manitoba. Edgar S. Preston was the first boy born in the district. He arrived on March 24, 1880. Other early arrivals were Annie Louise Armstrong, now Mrs. A. Smith, Crystal City, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Armstrong; John, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Murdoch; Clyde Kemp was the first to see the light of day in Wood Bay district and J. Wilfred Wallace was the first arrival in Londesboro.

The first wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Butchard, when their daughter Bella was united in wedlock to R. S. Thompson on January 17, 1881. Rev. Mr. Borthwick performed the ceremony. On October 22, 1881, Rev. John Brown performed the ceremony that united Maria T., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Parsonage and William Hunt. On December 27 of the same year Margaret Jane Fiddler and John Baptiste Ladeseur were married.

Death frequently cast a shadow over the new community. On the south side of the old mound, the bodies of James Harbottle and Mr. Martin were laid to rest. Mrs. McIntosh died in Wood Bay and her body was interred in what became Wood Bay cemetery. Then, as has been stated, Leonard Preston died on Jan. 1, 1879, and Mrs. Shaw passed away in the early days of settlement. Among the first to be laid to rest in the cemetery were John Stevens, Mrs. Martin, mother of Mrs. James Fraser and the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Stephenson. In the fall of 1881, Talbot Wood was killed in a threshing machine and buried on Sec. 22, 3-11. In Londesboro, a child of George Longman, died in 1880, and two children of Thomas Hagyard, and one of William Manning passed away and their bodies were interred on the farm now owned by T. F. Hagyard.

CHAPTER XII.

POLITICIANS.

Eight of the settlers, who came into the district comprising the Municipality of Louise, before 1882, have been honored by their fellow citizens by being elected as their representatives in the House of Parliament or the Legislative Assembly.

HON. JAMES B. BAIRD who opened the second store at the old Mound, arrived here in the early days of the settlement. He served his fellows on the Council, and as a member of the School Board and was elected as a member of the Provincial Parliament in 1907. Mr. Baird retained his seat for fifteen years and had the honor of being from January 1916 to April 1922, the Speaker of the House. After nearly fifty years residence in this district, Mr. Baird is still hale, hearty and active, and with Mrs. Baird, is enjoying the quiet of eventide in his home on Moffatt Avenue. Mr. Baird lost a son in the Great War and takes a keen interest in the beautiful Memorial Park and the annual Memorial Service.

JOHN LIVINGSTONE BROWN came here as a lad with his father, Rev. Robert Brown. He attended Pilot Mound School, and worked around the district before taking a Course of Study in the Congregational College, Montreal. He was ordained as a minister and has preached around this community and in Snowflake district for many years. He is a staunch temperance advocate and has been very active in all local and Provincial farmers' movements as well as in all good work. He married the daughter of James Campbell, who homesteaded in Wood Bay district. In 1921, he was elected as member of the Federal House and still retains his seat. Mr. Brown lives on the farm on which his father located.

HON. THOMAS GREENWAY whose name is mentioned in this record was to Crystal City what James Murdoch was to the Paisley Colony, and what James Fraser was to Pilot Mound—the Father of the Community. He was born in Cornwall, England, and came to Canada at the age of six, in 1844. For many years he was a general merchant in Centralia, Ont., and for ten years he was Reeve of the township. From 1875 to 1878, he represented S. Huron in the Federal Parliament. In 1878, he came to Manitoba, went back to Ontario for the winter and returned to stay in 1879. In that year, he was elected to represent Mountain constituency in the Legislative Assembly and retained his seat until 1904. From

1888 to 1900, he had the honor of being The Premier of the Province. In 1904, he was elected to represent Lisgar constituency in the Federal House, and in 1908, he retired to accept an appointment as a member of the Board of Railway Commissioners. Shortly after his appointment, he died, on October 20, 1908. Mrs. Greenway and her son E. T. are still in Crystal City.

HON. GEORGE LAWRENCE, who homesteaded near Glenora in 1879, was elected as Councillor in the Municipality of Argyle in 1882. In 1886 he moved to Killarney and was elected to the local Legislative Assembly in 1899. In 1911, he was appointed as Minister of Agriculture and Immigration and held that position until he lost his seat in 1915.

JAMES MORROW, son of William Morrow, was a pioneer in Silversprings district, where he settled on April 7, 1879. For ten years he served as a Councillor or as the Reeve of the Municipality. He took an active interest in all municipal, agricultural, educational and political affairs of the Province. He was elected to Manitoba Legislative Assembly for Manitou Constituency, on Oct. 31, 1911, and held his seat until 1915. Mr. Morrow is in his seventy third year and is living in Winnipeg.

HON. ROBERT ROGERS located in Clearwater, where he opened a general store in the early days of the settlement. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba and Minister of Public Works for eleven years, from 1900 to 1911. On October 11, 1911, he was sworn in as Minister of the Interior and Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs in the Federal Government. He relinquished these portfolios and assumed that of Public Works on Oct. 12, 1912. In 1916, he accompanied Sir Robert Borden to England to attend the Imperial Conference. In 1917, he resigned his portfolio in the Federal Government. He was an unsuccessful candidate in Lisgar in 1921. He was re-elected in 1925, but lost his seat in 1926. The Hon. Mr. Rogers is still a resident of Winnipeg.

D. A. STEWART, who is frequently referred to in this record, is a McGill University man, and has had a long and honored career in this district, where his home, nestled among the evergreens that he himself did plant, still stands. He was the first School Inspector in the district, the first Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipalities of Pilot Mound and Louise, a member of the Federal Parliament from 1902 to 1904, a Bible Class teacher for many years and a member of many other boards and committees. In 1883, he married Miss McIntyre, sister of Dr. W. A. McIntyre, Principal of the Normal School in Winnipeg. Happily, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are still enjoying the comforts of their pioneer home.

R. S. THOMPSON, who arrived here in 1879 and located at Marrinhurst, was the first in this district to be married. He was a very active man and held many public offices. He was a J. P., a member of the Provincial Board of Agriculture, a member of the Municipal Council of Louise, Reeve of the Municipality for two years, the first Warden of Rock Lake County, a member of the Eastern Judicial District, President of Mountain Electoral Division, and President of the Agricultural Society. He was elected to the local Legislature, for Cypress, on Dec. 6, 1886, by a majority of one vote. Mr. Thompson is now ninety years of age and is enjoying life in Victoria, B. C.

ALEXANDER MURDOCH was not a Politician, but his name is worthy of mention here. He came to this part in 1879 and homesteaded on Section 18, 3-11. For many years he taught school in different school districts. Later in life, he moved to town where he spent many busy days. He was an elder in the Kirk, Clerk of the Session, Secretary-Treasurer of Knox Congregation, Secretary-Treasurer of the School Board, Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality of Pilot Mound, Police Magistrate, etc. He died on Nov. 16, 1927, at the ripe age of 75, and his body was interred in the local cemetery. Mrs. Murdoch is spending the evening of her life in Winnipeg.

CHAPTER XIII.

PROFESSIONAL MEN AND OTHERS.

It is often said that we live in an age of false values so far as our estimation of success is concerned. We are apt to judge men by the standard of wealth and position rather than by that of character and goodness. A poor man of upright character may be a more successful man than a millionaire, who is immoral, if judged by the highest standard of worth. Still, we like to think of those who have gone out from among us, those who went to our local schools and who have entered professional spheres in other parts.

There are several of the pioneer families, whose sons and daughters have had distinguished careers. The family of Rev. Robt. Brown may be mentioned first. Giles, who attended Wood Bay school, went to Ceylon as a Missionary; Jean H. did Mission work in China. Robert E. is a Professor in Oberlin College, and Albert is pastor of a Church in Jackson, Mich. These three attended Londesboro School. S. B., who is a Professor in the University of Arizona, was born on the farm now owned by James Simmonds, but moved to Deloraine before he was of school age. John L., has already been referred to in the chapter on Politicians. Rev. John Brown's son, George B., is now a dentist in Nanaimo, B. C., and Robert, son of J. L., was Secretary of the Provincial U. F. M., for some time.

Charles S. Elsey, son of Henry Elsey, who was a pioneer in Marrinhurst, is now a Minister in Alberta, and on June 10th, 1925, had the honour of signing on behalf of the Independent Union Churches in Western Canada, "The Declaration of Church Union." The other three men who signed this historic document were: Rev. W. H. Warriner, D. D., Chairman of The Congregational Union; Rev. S. D. Chown, D. D., L. L. D., General Secretary of the Methodist Church; and Rev. Geo. Pidgeon, D. D., Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Roy Elsey, grandson of Henry, was born in Marrinhurst, educated in Copperfield and Pilot Mound. For some time, he was a Professor in Brandon College and is now in the University of British Columbia. From the family of James Gorrell, we have Dr. James Gorrell, one of the distinguished surgeons of Winnipeg, Dr. Russell Gorrell and Dr. Harvey Gorrell. In the family of James

Watson, we have three sons, who attended the town school and who entered the medical profession, Charles, James A., and Fred. Edward and Melville, sons of Dr. Little, the pioneer veterinary surgeon, attended school in town and became doctors. Silvester Preston, Russell Murdoch, George Butchard and Harry LaMere attended Goudney School, and became medical doctors. James Butchard became a school inspector in Alberta. H. P. Elson, son of John Elson, attended Crystal City school and is now doing Mission work in North Africa. William Elliot, who homesteaded part of 4, 3-11, entered the medical profession. Robert H. Murdoch, son of Alex. Murdoch, is practising dentistry in Winnipeg. Annie Werry, daughter of W. Werry, attended Huron school and went to Egypt as a Missionary. Ira S. White, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. White, attended the town school, and is now practising medicine in Gravelbourg, Sask. John Tisdale attended Dry River school and is now a doctor in Kenton. Walter Tisdale is practising medicine in Winnipeg. Edward Blake Robertson, son of William Robertson, for a time occupied a prominent position in the Immigration Department at Ottawa, and now holds an important position in the Manufacturers Association. R. McCool, son of James McCool, is now a member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly. Ed. Taylor, who went to Crystal City school, is a prominent lawyer in Winnipeg. A. C. Strachan, who went to the school in the McKenzie district, is now a Minister in the United Church. Robert Robinson, son of W. Robinson, Dry River, is practising law in North Battleford. Fred Craik, of Dry River School, is Inspector of Massey-Harris agencies in Alberta. M. L. Clark, who attended Floral School, is chief plow designer for the Massey-Harris Co. M. Gordon Melvin, who attended Willowdale School, is pastor of Knox Church, Regina. Percy Dixon and his brother Wilber, attended Londesboro School. The former is now a lawyer, the latter, a doctor in Calgary. Tom Ritchie and Jas. Fargey attended Silver Springs School and became ministers of the Gospel. Wm. H. Taylor attended Crystal City School and is now a doctor. Sir Donald Mann, partner in the firm of McKenzie and Mann, railroad contractors, spent his boyhood days in Huron. In the realm of journalism, the name of Walpole Murdoch is worthy of mention. A. M. Blackburn, son of Robert Jr., who is now prominent in Winnipeg Grain Exchange, distinguished himself at Bisley in 1909, when he won seven out of eight cups and won the honor of being champion rifle shot in the British Empire. Charles M. Blackburn, now of Floral, Andrew Bentley, Embury Galloway and Charles Embury served in the South African War. J. T. Gordon, of Gordon Ironsides, Ltd., though not a pioneer, spent about twelve years in the Mound. During that time he bought cattle and shipped whole trainloads direct to the Old Country market. The largest shipment made contained 360 animals. These were shipped in eighteen cars,

and were choice steers raised and fed by the Gorrell's, the Shilsons and others, who specialized in feeding cattle. The Cuthbert family arrived in 1888. The daughters were all talented musicians and one of them, Mrs. Rose, was with her husband in Poland, when the war broke out. They were interned until peace was declared.

There are many others who have done nobly and well and to the pioneers of this district and their offspring, the present generation owes much.

CHAPTER XIV.

WAR ACTIVITIES.

While it is impossible to refer to all that has happened in the last fifty years, we must make a brief reference to the part the community played in the Great War. Truly, a wonderful community spirit is one of the chief characteristics of the people. The local skating rink, the beautiful Memorial Park with the annual Memorial Service held there, the street shaling bees and the work done by men to help their fellows in trouble, demonstrate in an eloquent way, the reality of this spirit, but in no community effort was such a manifestation of this spirit made as in the effort put forth during the Great War. It has been said that few localities were better organized for war relief work than that surrounding Pilot Mound. In every school district, there was a live organization which was responsible for the work done in its own locality. Then, representatives of all the school districts formed:—The Pilot Mound and District War Relief Association. The Mayor of Pilot Mound, J. C. Stewart was Chairman of the Organization, E. J. Hicks, Vice Chairman, Dr. Speechly and subsequently, Rev. J. B. Clyde was Secretary.

In 1915, the local Grain Growers' Association, co-operated with the Provincial organization, and shipped through the local farmers' elevator a carload of wheat that was sold for \$1,053.50. This sum was used for war purposes as directed by the donors of the wheat. Before the organization had really been formed, the people of the district co-operated with those of Crystal City and Swan Lake in shipping a car load of flour to Belgium. Special sacks with the names of the three towns printed on them were used for this shipment.

In every district monthly subscriptions were collected and handed to the central committee for distribution. The total amount raised in cash for legitimate war purposes was nearly fifty thousand dollars. The women folks knitted socks, had regular sewing bees and sent the product of their labor with other comforts to the men in the trenches and in the hospitals.

About two hundred men went from this locality to take their places on the far flung battle line. Besides these men who took part in the actual warfare, Dr. R. D. Ferguson and Dr. Speechley were with the Medical Corps and Rev. J. R. Kennedy, Rector of

St. John's Church, who enlisted as a private, was appointed overseas as a Chaplain.

Thirty-seven of the brave young men, who went overseas, were called upon to make the supreme sacrifice. Thus on the fields of France and Flanders are spots that are dear to Pilot Mound people.

In the Memorial Park, kept so beautifully by John Barnes, stands a monument erected to the memory of the boys who did not come back. This monument was unveiled on Sunday, Sept. 9th, 1923, by Brigadier General J. Kirkcaldy. The Hon. J. B. Baird presided at the ceremony. The others who took part were: Mayor R. D. Ferguson, M. D., Rev. J. L. Brown, M. P., Rev. G. W. Hinds, Rev. A. Hood, Rev. T. H. J. Walton and the school children. The names on the Monument find in this little volume a worthy place:

William Acorn	J. McFadden
George Baird	Robert E. McJanett
John Blackburn	Archie McLeod
James A. Boote	William McKinnon
Leonard H. Boote	W. H. O'Dell
C. W. Butler	Oliver O'Sole
James Currie	F. Pierson
Thomas Denholm	Stanley Pointer
George Dodsworth	H. Richardson
Charles Embury	Harvey P. Robertson
Donald Fraser	Rae Robie
A. Gamble	George Roskilly
Philip Godon	Sidney Smith
John Greener	Clarence Standing
Austin Johns	John Sterling
John Jones	• William Wallace
Harry Landers	John Whitcombe
Alex. Law	S. J. Wood
M. McDonald	

"Their Names Shall Live Forever."



Pilot Mound Memorial Park, 1930.

—Photo by Mr. T. H. Hayward

“Their Memories We Rever.”

“They went, the call of Empire hearing,
They fought, our brave lads without fearing,
They fell, those sons of ours most dear,
And now, their memories, we revere.
To them this monument erected
Tells how with us they were respected,
And to this shrine we all go yearly
To honour those we loved most dearly.”

CHAPTER XV.

PILOT MOUND, 1930.

In closing this brief sketch of Pilot Mound, let us get a glimpse of the town and community as it is today. Here we have a wonderful heritage—splendid farms, beautiful homes, modern farm machinery, combines, milking machines, tractors, radios, telephones, autos, etc., a five roomed school in town with splendid buildings in every school district, a hard surfaced provincial highway, a race track, hydro electricity, annual fair, annual old-timers' reunion at Rock Lake, two churches, three elevators, six fraternal Societies (C. O. F., I. O. O. F., L. O. L., A. F. and A. M., L. O. B. A., and the Rebekahs) a branch of the Canadian Legion, a Women's Service League, a Women's Institute, a Hotel, etc. Then we have stores to supply all our needs, garages, implement warehouses, lumber yard, carpenter shops, etc.



Partial View of Pilot Mound, 1930.

—Photo by Mr. George Cohoe

There are two doctors—R. D. Ferguson and T. A. Cohoe; a dentist, Dr. F. B. Bingham; a Veterinary Surgeon, Dr. W. Kyle; two United Church Ministers, William Reid and William Bill; and an Anglican Clergyman, W. Eldridge; a lawyer, O. R. Schultz; a branch of the Bank of Toronto, with J. R. Haywood as Manager; a live weekly paper, edited by Ronald Tuckwell; a Board of Trade, Etc.

There are farmers' organizations—U. F. M., United Grain Growers, Wheat Pool, Elevator Association, Poultry Pool, Etc.

In the realm of Sport, there are Hockey teams, Curling Club, Baseball, Softball and Football teams, Bowling Alley, etc. The third Curling Club in the Province was formed in the Mound.

In fact, everything that can be found in the average progressive town, is to be found here.

The affairs of the Municipalities are well looked after by the Village Council and the Council of Louise. The former is comprised of A. Moore, Mayor; and W. Parsons, Ronald Tuckwell, J. Clark Winram and J. G. McLean, Councillors. T. H. J. Walton is the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Council of the Municipality of Louise is constituted with Robert Perfect, Reeve; Edgar Preston, J. V. McCoy, Geo. Burns, J. B. Ring, W. J. Hewitt and James Moir, Councillors; and H. D. McFadden, Clerk.

Fifty years ago settlers came to this district piloted by the Mound, as suggested by Rev. John Brown, in the verse:—

“And when you cross yon turbid stream
That flows Pembina's banks between,
Far to the Westward may be seen
A Hill Top round,
Surrounded by vast prairies green,
Great Pilot Mound.”

Today, the sons and daughters of those pioneers and many others, who have come to this district, form the prosperous and contented community of Pilot Mound.

CHAPTER XVI.

MEMORIAL CAIRNS.

At the meeting of the Pilot Mound Womens' Institute held on Saturday, Jan. 11th, 1930, it was decided, at the suggestion of Rev. J. L. Brown, M. P., that Memorial Cairns should be built of native stone, at or near the two places where the pioneers spent the winter of 1878. One will be erected on or near the Barbour farm, the other in Goudney at or near the place where P. Butchard and the Prestons stayed. On these Cairns there will be placed tablets recording the names of all who spent that first winter here. It is interesting to note that the Vice-President of the Institute for 1930, Mrs. G. W. Brisbin (nee Miss Playfair), who presided over the meeting referred to above, was the first white child to be born in what is now the Municipality of Argyle.

Thus we look back to the work of the pioneers and look forward to the erection of a lasting material monument, to their memory.

They came with brave hearts years ago,
These pioneers of seventy-eight,
They toiled and laboured and endured,
And now their story we relate.
A hundred miles they were from town,
Crop failures came and blizzards blew,
Still, with great hope, they ne'er gave up
Though comforts sweet were all too few.
To all of them, the men so strong,
The women true, the lonely bairn,
We tribute pay, in this small way
And to their memory, raise a cairn.



